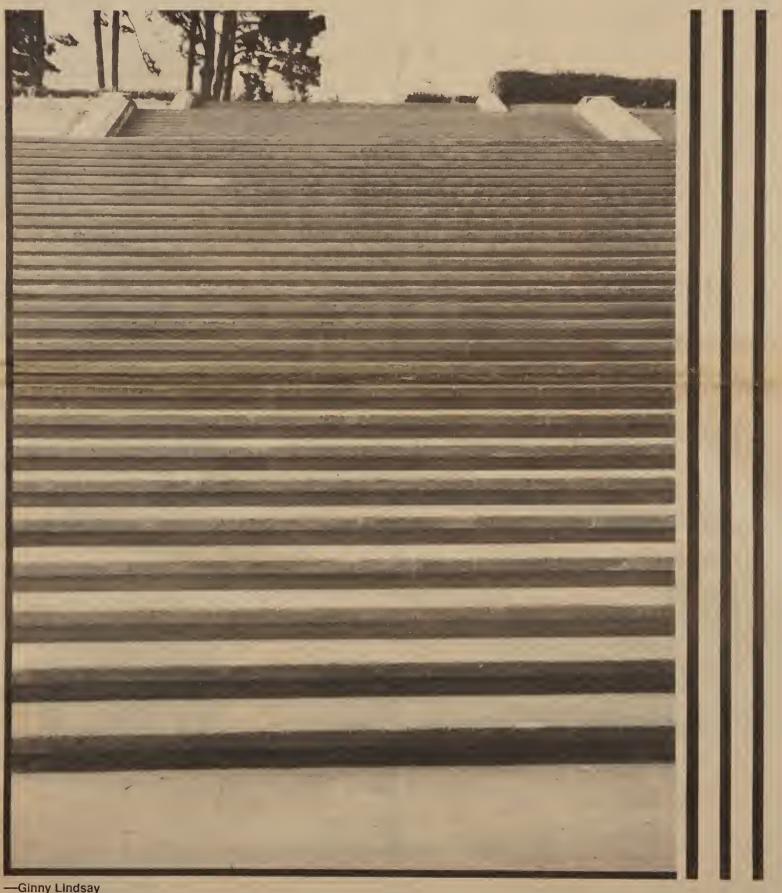


Volume 1

Number 10

February 1987



—Ginny Lindsay

- Beating Back the Boosters on the Boulevard
- The Nature of Reality
- **A New Interior Life**

# DINNER PLUS GHOST.

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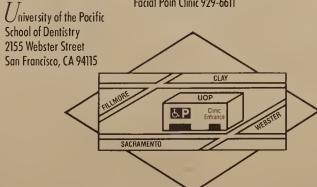
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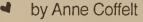
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## INSIGHT THE **FILLMORE**





### What Does It Mean To Be A Valentine?

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* The Inquiring Photographer always trying to outdo her rivals, thought a unique approach to this year's Valentine's column would be to interview neighborhood residents named Valentine. Thinking that of all people they dozen local Valentines listed in the phone book, she was able to interview two. So this month, we have a pair of real Valentines and a delicious assortment of true Valentine spirits

#### John P. Valentine

Stockbrocker; . Jazz Record Producer Resident: Gough and California



" I've gotten involved romantically with women who have been curious to meet someone named Valentine on Valentine's Day. It conjures romance to some and people rarely forget your name. My father once ran for Congress in California and his campaign leaflets were in the shape of a heart and they said, Send a Valentine to Congress. I got into the record business through hearing Francis Vanek's album Redwood Range on Valentine Records . I called Vanek to find out who had preempted the name I wanted for my own company. We hit it off and I learned that Vanek had named the label after his son, Valentine. I then proposed a deal to be responsible for the marketing and distribution of the record in trade for the license of the company's name. By the way, the record's a hit.

#### Julie Valentine

Dental student, University of the Pacific, Future Dentist Resident: Post/Scott



`<del>`</del>

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"It's like another birthday, I'm treated a little special on that day, it's kind of a fun name to have, it's been a nice asset to have. People who have that name seem to develop an instant camaraderie with one another. The man who inspired me to enter dentistry was my orthodontist whose name was Dr. Valentine. By the way, I'm available for appointments for any dental needs at any time and I'm always ready to be your Dr. Valentine.

#### Kay Prince Real Estate

Resident: Sonoma County Rick Henriksen Hotelier (Majestic and Regis)

Resident: Clay at Broderick



Kay:" My Valentine's wish is to be with Rick and have a romantic evening of dinner and dancing. I'd like roses that night, and roses I'll get. Valentine's Day means romance." Rick: "Valentine's Day means love and affection for the person I have love and affection for. I plan on spending it with Kay. As a child it always meant a big red heart and those little heart shaped candies that say I Love You and Be My Valentine."

#### Marlena Kelan

Elementary school teacher; Artist/ Illustrator Jon Weden

Designer, Landor Associates Residents: Brisbane



Marlena " It's going to be our wedding day, the first of 60 or 75 years of wedded bliss. Why did I choose Valentine's Day? Because Ground Hog's Day was impractical and now it will be our wedding anniversary and there will be no excuse for forgetting it. Also, I really like to make Valentine doilies, so now the day will really be special and I can make lots of doilies." Jon: "Valentine's Day, never meant very much to me. I've r been an avid Valentine giver. But I'm looking forward to this wedding to make future Valentine's Days mean more to me and my bride.'

#### Mitsuru Akashi Proprietor,

Nikko Restaurant Van Ness at Pine



Valentine's Day should be 365 days a year. It should be every night, don't you think so? At the restaurant, we're going to have Valentine celebrations one week prior and one week after. We'll just keep on having a good time with each other for two whole weeks of Valentine's Day." <u>Editor's Note</u>: When they wrote the song Each Day is Valentine's Day they may have had Nikko's in mind . 💙 💙 💜 💜 💜 💜

## Community news briefs and not-so-briefs

## Enlivened Fillmore Merchants elect new officers

On a roll since the Street Fair in October, the Fillmore Merchants and Improvement Association last month elected a new slate of officers, amongst a divided discussion about whether or not to merge with their neighbors to the north, The Pacific Heights Merchants and Property Owners Association, whose purview picks up on the high side of California Street.

Sean Teters, proprieter of Clean Machines and a key player in moving the merchants toward having a major street fair last Fall, was elected president over Rory Ward of Rory'sTwisted Scoop, who in turn defeated Howard Thompson as board chairman. Carol Montgomery of the Victorian Convalescent Home on Pine Street was elected Secretary, and Mildred Burrell of Another Way and Estelle Blair of Barely New were returned respectiviely as vice president and treasurer.

Sean replaced Bi-Rite Liquors' Max Cologna as president, who declined to serve a second term, and Carol filled the secretary's seat vacated by Barbara Conway of the Wash Palace, who also declined to seek re-election.

It was the first election in recent memory in which the nominating committee was able to find more than one candidate to run for office. Attendance and interest in the association has climbed steadily since plans for a fall fair began brewing last summer.

Ironically, attendance and interest in the association's northern neighbors, The Pacific Heights Merchants and Property Owners, who had originally brought the idea of a joint fair to the Fillmore Merchants, now appears to be on the decline, and that association is now having difficulty meeting its share of the reasonably modest deficit the fair generated for the merchants.

Talk was long but indecisive at the Fillmore Merchants meeting about a merging of the-two organizations, with new leadership tending to run in favor and old guard opposed. There are significant technical barriers to the move related to representation in the city-wide District Merchants Association, as well as a general lack of will in the membership for such an action.

Nonetheless the Fillmore Merchants' new board chairman, Rory Ward, appears to favor the idea.

"There are some key merchants up there with a lot of energy," Rory said. "It would be great to have that energy working with us."

# Laurel Heights Association continues UCSF legal battle on two court levels

The Laurel Heights Improvement Association lost another legal round last month in its effort to bar UCSF from moving its School of Pharmacy to the old Fireman's Fund site.

On January 15th the state Court of Appeal denied a request of the Laurel Heights Improvement Association for a stay to prevent the University of California, San Francisco, from continuing its renovation of the UCSF-Laurel Heights campus while the Association's appeal is underway.

The neighborhood association had requested the stay—called a "writ of supersedeas"—as part of its campaign to keep the university

from moving its School of Pharmacy from the Parnassus campus to the Laurel Heights campus.

Kathy Devincenzi, spokesperson for the Laurel Heights Improvement Association, said that the court is proceeding with the appeal and that it should be decided by May, before either of the two laboratories currently under construction are occupied.

The Laurel Heights group is also continuing to proceed against UCSF in the superior court with a suit based on different legal theories to prevent UCSF from using Laurel Heights for anything other than administrative purposes.

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century.
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## Groundbreaking for new MedCenter at Mt. Zion

The official and long-awaited groundbreaking for the 70,000-square foot San Francisco Medical Center and 538-stall parking garage at 1635 Divisadero Street, near Post Street, will take place on February 10, 1987.

The property is designed mainly for group medical practices and related uses such as radiology, ambulatory surgery, etc., but 5,600 square feet of ground floor space have been reserved for neighborhood retail business. The parking garage should help alleviate the chronic parking problem in this neighborhood.

Paula Collins, a principal of the Western Development Group, Inc., a local minority-owned real estate investment firm which is managing partner for the project, expressed the sentiments of all the participants. "We are delighted to see this project break ground after years of working with Mount Zion Hospital and the Medical Center, our neighbors in the community."

In addition to developing the \$16 million project, the Western Development Group, Inc. will serve as leasing agent and property manager. Completion of the project is scheduled for early 1988.

Children of Ben Franklin Jr. High, William Cobb Elementary and Presidio Hill School are participating in the project by painting 60 feet of mural for the construction fence.

## Opportunity for jr. artists

Art-oriented kids in the neighborhood might be interested in traveling down the hill this Saturday to join in the spring session of the San Francisco Children's Art Center at Fort Mason.

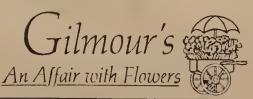
The program, for children ages 2 through 12, starts February 7th. and runs for fifteen weeks. Parents or students interested in further information should call 771-0292.

#### THE NEW FILLMORE

The New Fillmore is published monthly from Box 343, 2443 Fillmore Street, San Francisco, CA 94115. Tel. 931-0515 (You should see the size of the box!) David Ish, Editor and Publisher, Ginny Lindsay, Art Director, Carol Tolbert, Production Supervisor. We warmly welcome letters to the editor, articles, fiction, poetry and notions. All submissions, whether real or imagined, must be either about something happening in the neighborhood (or at least partially set in the neighborhood if it's fiction) or written by someone fiving here.

# Do Your Valentine Shopping Early!

10% off our Valentine special with this ad if purchased by February 12 for delivery in San Francisco.



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Clinton Chevron's Care Care Tips

by Jane Clinton

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Automobiles run on a mixture of air and fuel, consuming 10,000 times more air than fuel (aren't we lucky it isn't the other way around?). Air enters the engine through the carburetor but first it passes through the air filter, which filters out all of the dirt and dust particles so that they do not enter the engine, which could result in rapid and excessive wear of the moving parts of the engine.

A dirty air filter will reduce the air flow, causing the air/fuel mixture to be too rich. This results in poor fuel economy and increased pollution.

Air filters should be checked and cleaned every 3,000 miles and replaced every 10,000 miles (usually when you have a tuneup, but if you drive in dirty, dusty areas the air filter should be checked and changed more often.)

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### Neighborhood Poetry:



# **Night Partner**

In the void appeared a circle of mist light Whose boundaries brought forth the man Darkly handsome, container of Pluto's power Veiled light within the surrounding night.

Speaking softly past my flesh, to the very bones Containing soul, he said, I am Scorpio The hum of his vocal chords fell over me Like a magic net of spider silk

Cascading down a bridal veil
Sparkling dewy jewels of the night
Drifting against me like a lover's embrace
I, whose dark moon shadows his name.

--Norma Churchill Neighborhood poet and explorer of the unconscious Norma Churchill lives on Steiner Street. She also did the illustration.

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# Crime watch, part 2: Whose getting ripped off on Fillmore St.?

## Aggressive action sees New Fillmore shoplifting decline

The light-fingered Looeys and Lils are still among us. Shoplifting, according to local beat patrol officer George Hugle, is the most common crime in our neighborhood. There were 15 incidents in the month of January, with four high profile incidents in the five block section of Fillmore Street between Bush and Washington. Radio Shack was ripped off to the tune of \$209 on the 9th and the liquor stores had a double-header with both D & M and Bi-Rite suffering cash losses. The Bi-Rite thief, a big bruiser, dropped his hand in the till. Clerk Larry Young countered by kicking the register door closed, trapping the thief's hand inside. Undeterred, the thief proceeded to pick up the register, smash it to the floor and escape on to the street with his booty. Late in the month both Khyber Crossing and Mansfield's were hit for a combined loss of more than \$200.

The January roster of shops hit is fairly typical. According to police the prime targets are grocery stores and liquor stores, though both Mondaine's and Family Spirit liquors have had less trouble than in the past. Jules Mondaine credits locals who keep an eye out for potential troublemakers and are ready to jump in when needed

Another group constantly under attack, but seldom mentioned, are the several thrift stores that line Fillmore Street. Bonnie Raskin at the "Thrift Shop" and Jeanette Lockshin at Women's American ORT told us that they are continually plagued. According to Jeanette, "They come in pairs or threes and seem very professional. They've even taken money from the register with the clerk standing right there! We tell our people not to chase them, but if we catch them at it in the store we confront them and tell them not to come back."

Who are these rip-off artists anyway? If teenagers was the first thought, shift gears. A fuzzy composite of these curb-crumbs reveals that they are generally between 20 and 40, men and women, black and white. They work every way—singly, in tandem, and in groups. They work all hours, all days and seasons and have in common two "attitudes" when caught—embarrassment or defiance. Most notorious in our neighborhood are two pairs of transvestites who hit regularly.

There is a positive note--shoplifting is down about fifteen percent from last year, and there have been six fewer incidents this January compared with 1986. The police attribute the drop to the presence of beat officers. As one officer put it, "The police may not spot the criminal, but the criminal can sure spot the police." And the police have help in the shape of gutsy shopkeepers, helpful neighbors, and at least two alert, "criminal sensitive" dogs.

When The New Fillmore interviewed merchants and their clerks last week we found that most stores have some system to foil would-be shoplifters, but they preferred to keep secret all but the obvious. The one exception was their open discussion of "The Tree"-- a telephone buddy system to alert fellow shopkeepers that trouble may be headed their way. Attack, for instance, C.P. Shades - in a trice Jennifer Richmond or one of the other clerks will be on the line to, say, Barbara Foreman at Expecting the Best who in tum may call Jennifer Sheridan at Bollas, and so on up and down Fillmore. The word is out that some suspicious-looking character is lurking/shoplifting or generally up to no good.

Mary Lou Dowdy (The Company Store) and Debbie Phillips (Mansfield's) would probably add -- "Get a dog!" to the list of things merchants can do to discourage shroplifters. Both of their canines, Sinbad and Daffy, seem to have developed a sixth sense when it comes to shoplifters, and shoplifters seem



Officer George Hugle on the beat in front of Bi-Rite. Beat patrolmen, added to the Street a year ago, appear to be an important contributing factor to the decline in shoptlifting and petty thefts from merchants in the last year. At this time last year 21 such incidents were reported in the neighborhood for the month of January. January incidents this year are down to 15.

disinclined to tangle with a dog, even the friendly, tail-wagging variety. Debbie remarked, "The first time Daffy growled at a customer we put her in the back room--that was our first theft--that dog's been right every time. Now we pay attention."

Jon Stevenson of The Producer, Phil Dean at Fillmore Hardware and Ahmad Rahim of Radio Shack said they could spot a shoplifter at once, and they use the "confront and kick out" method. Some of the women, however, turned out to be more aggressive in their attitudes.

"I'm afraid," said one female clerk, "but I'm angry, too, and I'm just not going to let them get away with it. We're a small shop and I am responsible to the owner to safeguard his investment. I just march right up to them, demand our merchandise and tell them to get out."

While fear freezes some people it starts the adrenalin in others. Among the latter is Doris Raymond of The Way We Wore, currently the most notorious among local women crimestoppers. Her encounter last July included a knock-down, drag- out chase, and involved several people in the neighborhood as well as a muni bus driver!

Two other women it doesn't pay to mess with are Barbara Arena of Algebra's and Ronit Armony of Voila. Both gave chase, were under attack and were rescued by the police.

Almost everyone interviewed agreed that "things are better", that the presence of George Hugle and Dan Gardner, the beat patrolmen, was a big plus. Every person with whom we spoke mentioned patrolman George Hugle. His presence is reassuring to merchants and customers alike.

We tracked him down on his beat and asked him what he would advise in shoplifting cases. "If you suspect someone in your store of shoplifting, or even if your're just ill at ease about a customer, CALL THE POLICE!" Hugle

said. "If I'm close, I'll get there as fast as I can; if not, a radio car will be dispatched. It's not a good idea to try to do anything yourself. Get a good descriptiion, make a report and we'll do the rest."

Merchants however, while fond of Hugle, had a common complaint that it took too long--15 or 20 minutes--for police to arrive on the scene.

Officer Earl Wismer of Northern Station, while acknowledging the response time was sometimes slow, asserted it was appropriate and thorough. "When you call us the information is being passed by computer to a dispatcher who in turn finds an available unit to respond. Your call is generally out within three minutes. They are searching for the criminal as they drive toward the scene. That's why it is so important for you to describe the appearance, especially the clothing, of the criminal, and tell us in which direction he is traveling--everything helps.

"As to taking matters into your own hands this is not generally a good idea, your safety is more important than your merchandise and police are trained and prepared when things get rough. Sometimes you can get away with it, but we don't advise it."

Nonetheless an aggresive attitude towards shoplifters is not without its merits. The underground grapevine seems to provide "regulars" with word on which shops will prosecute, and for the most part they leave those to the newcomers. Mansfield's is one such store which has a reputation for proescuting, and they have not been bothered with repeat "customers."

The combination of the addition of the beat patrol and an increasingly alert and feisty attitude on the part of shopkeepers would seem in fact to be what is currently keeping the boosters at relative bay. Eternal vigilance turns out to be not only the price of freedom, but the cost of doing business.

--- Maggie McCall



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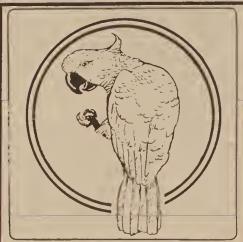
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## People in the Neighborhood: Author Richard Morris

## A neighbor closes in on the nature of reality

Ever wonder in your spare time, perhaps after a hard day and some bad headlines, about the end of the world, or maybe the fate of the universe, or even the nature of reality itself? Not everybody does, of course, but if you are a cosmic ponderer, it turns out you've picked a good neighborhood to live in. For if such large scale questions ever cross your mind and you're out on the street or standing in line at Grand Central Market, there's a good chance you might run into neighbor Richard Morris, easily identifiable from the photo accompanying this article, and Richard thinks and writes about such things for a living. A scientist by education (he got a Ph.D. in physics from the University of Nevada in 1968) and a writer by talent and inclination, Richard, since 1977, has written a series of philosophically oriented books on science and nature for general readers such as ourselves. So if you have a burning philosophical question when you next run into him in the neighborhood, he probably wouldn't mind taking a minute or two to give you an answer, if the question is profound

And Richard keeps up. He is not one to sit on his cosmic laurels. Just last month as a result of a breakthrough in observational capability in astrophysics, several fearfully symmetrical macro arches, roughly 300,000 light years across, were reported drifting between galaxies in deep space. Like the dried and frozen carcass of the leopard reported by Hemingway in *The Snows of Kilimanjaro*, no one could explain what the arches were seeking at that altitude, let alone what they were composed of. Richard was fully prepared to be as informedly astonished as anyone else deeply in the know about the unknown.

"They seem so regular," Richard said, commenting on why they are such a mystery.

"They seem to be almost perfect circular arcs. Very few things in nature show that kind of regularity."

Richard seemed non-plussed by this recent shake-up in our fundamental understanding of the cosmos, but perhaps that should be expected from a neighbor whose book titles include The End of the World, The Fate of the Universe, and The Nature of Reality.

Richard began probing the mysteries of the various depths professionally back in 1977 when he submitted a science fiction novel to an agent. The agent liked the novel very much, but couldn't place it with a publisher. He suggested that Richard, with his background and doctorate in physics, had the credibility and talent to write a science fact book which the agent felt confident he could place. Richard took the suggestion, and his first science book for the general reader, Light, appeared in 1979. Darkness followed this illuminating topic, as Richard in his second book contemplated, in 1980, The End of the World, running a gamut of scenarios which included supernova, uncertainty as to our own sun's stability, records of previous mass extinctions, and a cornucopia of man-made disasters from nuclear holocaust, genetically engineered DNA gone mad, and too many aerosol spray cans.

Somehow warming to his subject, Richard managed to up the ante in his next book, in which *The Fate of the Universe* was considered, and where the answer to the fundamental imponderable of whether the universe is finite or infinte was looked for in such clues as big bangs, redshifts, missing mass, and black holes. As in his previous books, his scientific training disciplined him to refrain from any crackpot speculations, and his writing reveals that he takes a certain pleasure from working within the rigor of known facts.

His highly grounded orientation has not stopped him, however, from considering



Neighbor Richard Morris, who lives on Buchanan Street, has been seriously questioning the nature of reality for years. A physicist by education and a writer by inclination, his science books for the general reader include Light, The Fate of the Universe, Evolution and Human Nature, Time's Arrows, and most recently, The Nature of Reality. The latter is currently available at Browser Books.

some of the deeper mysteries of human nature, a task he took on shortly after The Fate of the Universe, with his next book, Evolution and Human Nature, published in 1983. Here he played with basically the two different theories of human nature, generally simplified to be the nature versus nurture controversy —how much of human nature is inherited, and how much of it is molded by the environment? It was fascinating to him to discover as he dug into this scientific controversy that it was a political as well as a scientific debate, with conservatives feeling that human nature is basically nasty and liberals feeling and fundamentally malleable and perfectable.

Richard returned to harder physical science with his next two volumes, *Dismantling the Universe*, a book about the nature of scientific discovery, and *Time's Arrows*, an exploration of the nature and parodoxes of time in an Einsteinian universe and post-Einsteinian theory.

And late last year came The Nature of Reality, needless to say, an overview, exploring physical reality from the smallest known subatomic particle to the expanding macrocosm. One conclusion he appears to have reached in the book and for himself is not one he seems to be entirely comfortable with. Certain key and highly improbable irregularities since the creation of the universe some 18.5 billion years ago in a cosmic fireball seem to suggest that it is almost impossible to continue to believe that life was created by accident. Rather it seems that the universe almost had to be created for the purpose of creating life, because if it had been created in any other way, just slightly differently, it would be impossible for life to exist.

The key irregularities include a surplus of matter over anti-matter, on the order of one billion and one protons for every billion anti-protons, an extraordinary phase of super-expansion from 10 to the minus 35 to 10 to the minus 32 seconds after the big bang (don't

blink), the unaccountable formation of stars into galaxies, and the fact that ice floats, rather than sinks, like any other self-respecting solid placed in it's liquid form.

Each one of these phenomena is disturbingly asymmetrical in an otherwise extremely tidy and orderly universe governed by comfortable and predictable laws concerning gravity, thermodynamics and electromagnetism. When the universe exploded, why didn't all the matter and anti-matter particles annihilate each other the way they do in linear accelerators? Why should there be one particle of matter left for every bilion parts presumably annihilated? Why the unbalanced surplus? And why does it appear that the universe did this sudden early hiccup, expanding 10 to the 25th power in 10 to the minus 3 seconds, suddenly belching forth all those unannihilated protons? Similar questions are asked about the formation of the galaxies and the peculiar formation of ice which floats rather than sinking to create totally crystalized, inorganic oceans. There is one answer to all these questions, which is true, but as yet too simple: because if it wasn't that way, there wouldn't be any life.

Looking as deeply into human nature and the nature of reality as the latest scientific breakthroughs and his own intelligence will allow, Richard has been unable to draw any fundamental conclusion about either. There is no clear answer to either the nature versus nurture debate or whether the universe will expand infinitely, or one day collapse back upon itself. There is compelling evidence stacked high on either side, but it is just too close to call.

If you should happen to run into Richard on the street sometime and he doesn't make eye contact with you or return your smile, don't take it personally. He has a lot on his mind.

-- David Ish



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### Up and Down The Fillmore

by David Ish

DRESS FOR SUCCESS?: I have taken very recently to dressing to signal my intention, particularly when it comes to selling ads for the paper. Until the last couple of months. I would wander along FillImore Street in my usual, scruffy jeans selling ads on my regular rounds of shopping, personal errands, etc. But I began to realize some merchants found this a little disconcerting, almost as if I were ambushing them. Here I was, permanently casually dressed, the way you would expect someone to be dressed if they just wanted to hang out or maybe even buy something suddenly talking business for God 's sake, muttering all this stuff about rate cards and multiple insertions and the like. They felt unfairly caught off guard. So to be straight forward about it I took my grey flannel trousers and blue blazer out of mothballs, leftovers from when I used to work downtown, put on a button-down shirt and rep stripe tie, got into my wing tips, grabbed my black portfolio and went out to hit, as they say, the bricks. Here was a guy obviously out to do business and nothing else. It worked both among those who still recognized me and thosewho did not. It worked, in fact, a little to well. After a couple hours of rounds, in need of a caffeine fix, I went into the donut shop and stood in line for a cup of coffee. As I got to the head of it I was greeted by the manager, who happened to be on duty. "Im sorry," he said, shaking his head. "I'm just too busy to see you right now."

FESTIVAL FINDS FILLMORE. Item, as they say in the biz. What famous film festival is having its principal screenings on Fillmore Street this year? None other than the

San Francisco Film Festival, which is taking over the new Kabuki 8 Theatres from March 25 to April 5 for most of its screenings. While the opening night gala will still be held down at the Palace of Fine Arts the festival is shifting the bulk of its screenings to the more flexible sceening environment provided by the Kabuki. What is the environmental impact of this likely to be? More people standing outside of Harry's trying to get in during the last few nights of March and the first few nights of April.

SAFE WITHOUT SAFE. Got a call last week from Jean Dierkes-Carlisle, a former neighborhood resident who now lives on Telegraph Hill, and who had just read last month's article in The New Fillmore about some of the residents on Bush Street organizing a Safety Awareness group after Eva Anderson was mugged there last fall. Jean, who lived here when the neighborhood was the old neighborhood, before, as she put it "The real estate speculators hit" in 1979 and 1980, found it bitterly amusing that it was now necessary to organize specific groups for people to look out for each other and have some sense of community. "We didn't have any SAFE programs then," she snorted. "Everybody just knew each other and looked out for each other."

It may seem unfortunate that people have to organize into groups in this sort of artifical way rather than just being neighborly in the first place, but since the old neighborhood and old sense of friendliness is no longer here it is better that than nothing at all. Anything that builds community in the absence of community is quite worthwhile. Cities have great conveniences and strengths, one of which is that people leave you alone. But sometimes they leave you a little too alone. There is a balance that can be struck between the claustrophobia of a small town and the anonymity of a big city. I think we can strike it here, in The New Fillmore, if we pay attention and support those things which contribute to neighbors knowing each other better, and helping each other out.

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#### Food & Frippery:

# Romance binge quickening in New Fillmore as Valentine's Day nears

by Ed Schwartz

Now that I have your attention, think about this. Four of America's favorite indoor sports end in "ing" -- romancing, wine- ing, dining and bowling.

Let's set aside bowling for a few months hence and get down to the first three. The best part about the three remaining is that all can be done during the same relative time frame. Some adroit couples can do all three at the same time! And Valentine's Day is a good day for accomplishing same.

Now that we have the time, The New Fillmore area is the place.

For example, did you know that Cafe Majestic is planning a special Valentine's dinner? Trust me. For \$45 a person, romance blooms with the first course of pink bean and oyster bisque or a Garden of Eden salad. That's followed by grilled scallops with passion fruit vinaigrette sauce. For a choice of entrees, either a filet mignon with fois gras or a grilled squab with cassis sauce. Desserts are a coeur a la creme or a chocolate seduction cake. Champagne comes with the deal and I say we're off to a good start. For reservations call 776-6400.

Pacific Heights Bar & Grill is a good place to nest, especially if you believe that oysters are an aphrodisiac. You knew that the word comes from the Greek neuter plural of Aphrodisios, meaning "of Aphrodite", the goddess of love and beauty. Casanova, who knew of these things, ate dozens of oysters a day and there you are. Well, PacBag can serve you up a whole plateful of the freshest oysters from a list of a dozen varieties—so go to it. PacBag has one of the best wine lists in

town, too. I like a sauvignon blanc with most oysters. I find Champagne a nice idea, but not so good a match with bivalves. The restaurant is on Pine and Fillmore and answers to 567-3337

Speaking of aphrodisiacs, Cocolat has something up its tasty sleeve. Take this home and rub it all over your body-a Kahlua chocolate truffle cream cake, shaped like a heart in a special Valentine's box for \$15.95. Cocolat's Elliott Medrich notes, for you romantics, that chocolate, in addition to being scrumptious, contains just a teeny amount of phenylethylamine, a natural chemical produced by the brain and thought to be associated with causing the feeling of falling in love. Cortez's troops found Montezuma drinking a sacred potion called Xocoatl and that, kiddies, is how Chocolate got to Spain in 1528 and was THE rage drink. But you don't have to go to Spain. Cocolatis at 2119 Fillmore.

You say "candy is dandy but..." Well, then fall by D&M at 2200 Fillmore and stock up on the drink for romance, Champagne. For the high flyers, John Simmel suggests the ultimate -- a bottle of Dom Perignon Rose Champagne, 1962, at \$215, or the very good vintage of 1978 at \$149. I mean, this is serious heaven! Down to earth, go for the wonderful California sparkling wines made by Iron Horse at \$16.99 or Robert Hunter, \$10.99.

Bi-Rite has some wonderful still wines. The sexiest wine on the block is Pinot Noir, the elegant red that one wine-writing wag noted, "doesn't knock your socks off, it slips them off." Mark Mitchell also notes a keen value in a Rose Champagne, a Cyril de Goldschmidt-

Continued on page 10





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#### Valentine Round-up

from page 9

Rothschild for \$29.99. It's a mouthful in more ways than one, but ask for it at 2066 Fillmore.

Oops, flowers. You're going to need flowers. And not petunias, either. Let's talk about a dozen of the best roses from Kyo's Flowers, 2208 Fillmore. The store likes two varieties, Samantha or Loyalty, and a dozen will set you back \$35 to \$50, but may set you up, as well.

And at Gilmour's Flowers (and gifts) at 1909 Fillmore between Pine and Bush there's a special treat: flowers and candy - together in an exquisite arrangement with a heart-shaped base and reusable lead crystal candy dish. For a comfortable \$26.95 price tag you can cover

The flowers will fade The champagne will fizzle The candy will make you fat, But a red rolodex is forever....



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all the bases, BUT you have to make your purchase by February 12th.

Want to romance your Valentine Italiana? Good. Set your sights on Vivande, 2125 Fillmore, for a treat of Torta Milanese; a red, white and green concoction of spinach, frittata, pimento, cheese, ham and crunchy crust.

To wrap it all up, you can stroll into the Brown Bag - corner of Pine& Fillmore and select from their assortment of Valentine gift wraps and what it's all about - the Valentine!

Well, let's close it with a song. I kept humming the tune from "Funny Girl" - the scene in which Fanny Brice is getting THE treatment at a fancy restaurant with a private room, containing a table for two and a bed! She

"How many girls become a sinner While waiting for a roast beef dinner? Though most girls slip in ordinary ways I got style, I do it Bordelaise!

This Valentine's Day, may the style be with you, wherever you slip.

Ed Schwartz is a famous food writer who lives dangerously close to the neighborhood.

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#### More of Paris

One cannot be in Paris and not visit at least a few of the numerous museums For centuries artists from all over the world have flocked here seeking inspiration and recognition from kindred souls those who may understand and applaud their style of expression D c d s lat r an h torians will difine one styll or another as a 'movement' However to the artist of each period Pari must have secmed as the Emerald City did to Dorothy in the Wizard of Oz, a magical place where all things are possible

The magnificent structures that house the various collections are as different from each other as the periods they exhibit. If is almost as if the edices themselves are vying with the art within for your patronage. The Louvre Museum

for example, is the largest Royal Palace ever built. As one would expect from the kings of France, it holds one of the richest collections in the world. The Mona Lisa by da V nci makes her home here as do the Winged Victory of Samothrace, Venus de Milo and numerous other beloved classic masterpieces. The galleri is here hold over 300 000 works?

My tavonte collection was only recently moved from the Jeu de Paume to the Gare D'Orsay the renov fed train tation turned mull until believe the art ts who elp intings hang here. Van Gogh. Monte Ceranne Manet, and Rinor among others would be highlighted to see their work in a site once filled with the hustle and builte of people going about their hurried business. This station must have been as vibrant and colorful and 'modern' in the age of steam as these impressionists'

paintings were in their time.

An interesting mix of old and new can be found at the Pompidou Art Centre in the Les Halles area For 800 years Les Halles was the central open air market place of Paris, now it consists of several cobbled blocks catering to today's shopper and culture lover. We discovered intellectual bars, frendy restaurants, boutiques, a jazz record store and the like Dominating the entire scene is the an architectural Pompidou masterpiece of glass and gigantic pipe Functional minimalism in modern design reached its pinnacle at Pompidou We first approached it by accident one night and it seemed incongruous, a huge, glass encased tactory! On closer inspection, it became clear it was a factory a factory of presentation Great numbers of people are able to view this high st form ot human The museum expression ART houses an excellent permanent collection of modern art as well as playing ho t to various traveling exhibits. When Vicki and I were there we were lucky enough to attend a tabulous Gustav Klimt exhibit

One of the museums we wish we had seen was the recently opened Picasso But, with lines snaking around the block and the temperature in the 30's, our San Francisco blood told us it was time to explore elsewhere

Shopping in Paris! Shopping in

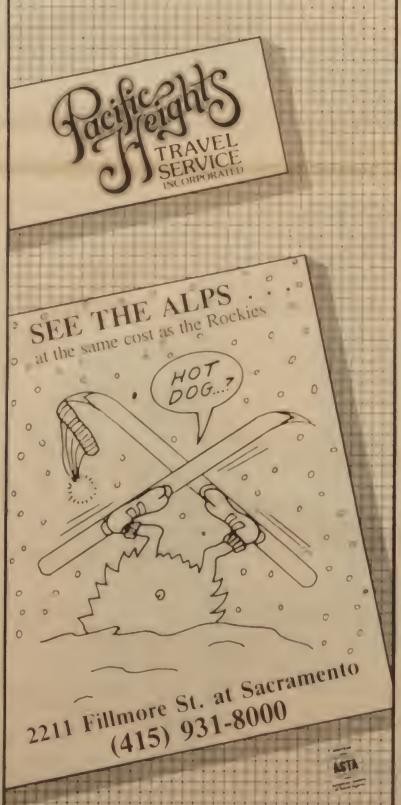
this city is both a joy and a tragedy. A joy because of all the wonderful things to buy; a tragedy because of all the money you are going to spend. If you are feeling truly outrageous, and have an unlimited credit fine, you must attend a 'showing' at one of the many haute-couture salons. Dior, Chanel and most famous designers are located here.

On the other hand, if you would rather browse at your leisure for elegant ready to-wear clothing, boutiques can be found in Avenues Montaigne, George V, Champs Elysees and the rue de Faubourg Saint Honore areas. Those boutiques that specialize in trendy clothing are generally tound in Les Halles and Saint-Germain des Pres areas.

An uncontested monopoly that the French hold is in the world of perfume. Nowhere outside of a Parisian department store is there such a selection of scents or such elaborate displays to tickle your eyes and nose. The counters seem to go on forever with varieties that often are available nowhere else. All departments of the stores we visited. Galeries Latayette, Au Printemps and Aux Trois Quartiers, were as complete as Bloomingdale's or Macy's.

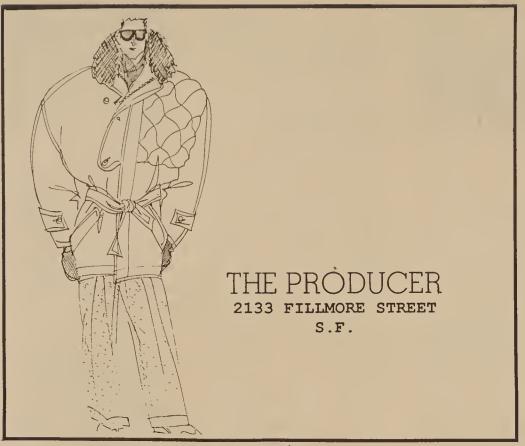
A pleasing similarity between Paris and San Francisco is found in their many neighborhood grocery stores, each block seems to have

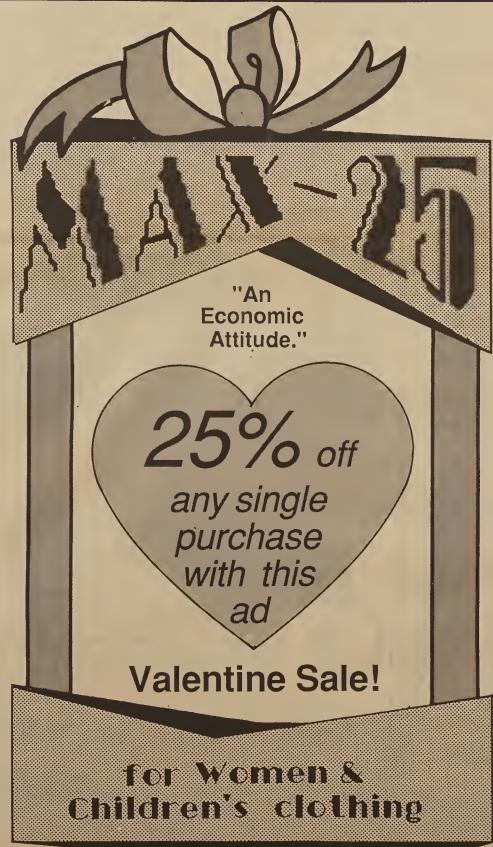
Continued on page 16











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The New Fillmore --After a Fashion by Kathi Wheater

### February's Love Worn

Celebrate the ground hog or celebrate love--February's known for both but which would you choose? Better the intimacy of Valentine's Day where the emphasis is on warmth, not the 50/50 chance of nature's cooler-than-thou attitude. Intimate gifts to the one we love most often are intimate apparel. Whether you want a whimsical present or a romance clincher, the choice on Fillmore Street runs from sweet, sexy. silly, so-small-aprice-to-pay to extravagant, exciting and very

MANSFIELD'S, the shop that elegantly classical, yet comfortable clothing and nightwear is changing its focus. Starting this month, you can find more intimate wear and lingerie, less nightgowns and robes. "If you don't want to shop at department stores, where can you find an attractive, good-looking bra that isn't specialty-priced on this street?" asked Pamela, co-owner of Mansfield's and buyer of intimate apparel. Mansfield's will now carry brassieres ranging from French cotton lace to racer-back leisure styles, as well as fine cotton panties that are under \$5.00 each. For gift-giving, you'll find elegant Christian Dior stockings to wear with garters, and if you must have a nightgown, they carry allcotton summer gowns.

The history of underclothing is fairly recent, beginning in the Middle Ages when the higher strata of society decided this was a luxury only they could afford, one that would elevate them a bit from the rest of their countrymen and women. By the second half of the 17th and 18th centuries, undergarment frills were expected to show in the openings of a dress, mostly at the elbows and low-cut necklines.

Almost nothing changed until the end of the 19th century, when elaborate trimmings

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SAN FRANCISCO 94115

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### Lingerie

Continued on page 9

became available and permissible for the many. Ready-to-wear linens and corsets held in the ample figures of hourglass women. Only when a pioneer couturier by the name of Paul Poiret brought the idea of a loose-fitting chemise to the public did corsets begin to disappear.

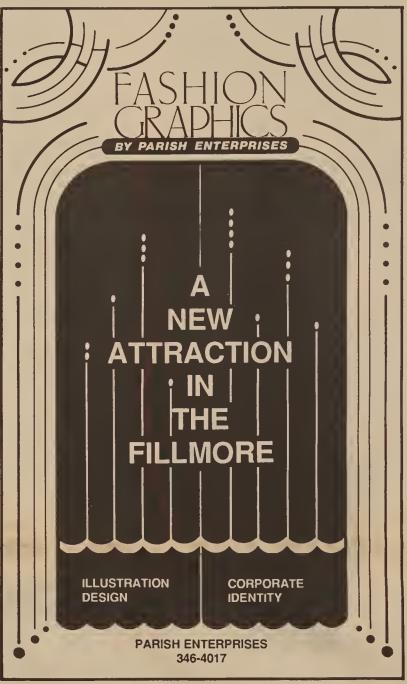
HISTORICAL TRIVIA FITTING FOR FEBRUARY: Parisian Paul Poiret, one of the first 20th century designers to stress simplicity, invented the brassiere. An admirer of the small bosom of Botticelli's Venus, he invented the soutien-gorge, or brassiere, to achieve breasts "that rise forth from the bodice like an enchanting testimonial to youth." This youthful figure has become the ideal silhouette, lasting throughout the 20th century.

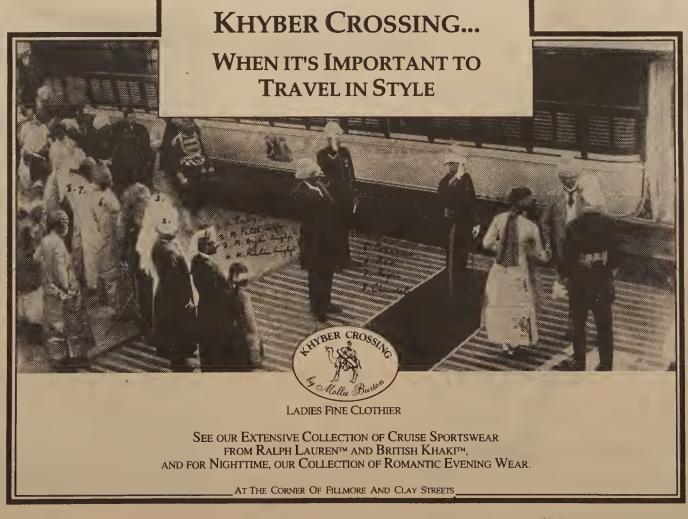
For the last three months, you may have noticed a lot more pedestrian traffic in the vicinity of Sacramento and Fillmore-- and a darkhaired, bustling woman dressed in soft shirts and hair wraps who runs back and forth from the deli. She is Beverly Weinkauf, owner of the lingerie shop, TOUJOURS. In her Victorian—inspired shop is gathered a wideranging collection of beautiful undergarments,

Continued on page 14









### Lingerie

From page 13
sleepwear and loungewear that beg to be bought for a Valentine.

"I relate to the 1940's style of sophistication," Beverly says, "when women had the silk slip, the silk gown, the garters and stockings." What you'll find in TOUJOURS will satisfy those cravings—besides her classic black or creme full-length slips, there are retro-looking eyelet sleep camisoles and panties, Italian lawn lounge pajamas, cotton and lace-trimmed one-piece bloomers, plus exquisite satin gowns and teddies in pale shades of peach, creme, lilac or dramatic black or white.

Perhaps the best part about shopping TOUJOURS, which translates quite literally to 'all the days,' is Beverly's emphasis on featuring San Francisco designers and artisans. Here you'll find lingerie and loungewear created by Underwriters, the brainchild of designers Eric Paulsen and Gigi Gee. Each piece is unique and sophisticated—there's far-

reaching imagination at work here. An offwhite dressing gown of silk cloque stands out; the fabric is imprinted with leaf and flower designs made to raise off the under-material. You'll find their silk double-lined pants with duster tops elegant enough to wear out for

Continued on page 18

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The Interior Life by J.D. Dangerfield

#### Home is Where the Heart is

Your home should reflect your personality. So if you see yourself as being somewhere in between Pee Wee Herman and Rambo (or, a-lafem, Loretta Tortelli and Elvira), now is obviously NOTthe time to redecorate. Rent a plant.

We all remember our mothers reminding us at times of self-incrimination that "Everybody is



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different, dear." Well, as it turns out, mother was, surprisingly, right once again. And those qualities which make YOU a unique individual should, in the best case, be woven into and through the design you choose for your home. So, base line, designing your home is actually an exercise in coming to terms with your identity-consciously deciding what you like and don't like-and why. Determining what works for YOU. It is important for you to know that the reasoning BEHIND your preferences is as important AS your preference and will act, subsequently, as a springboard to, and foundation for, other design decisions.

If a thyroid-active "in-basket" at the office or the Saturday sloppies have precluded you from the enjoyment and fulfillment that comes from creating a truly personalized interior design for your environ, you have missed out on more than fiddling with color swatches. This and future columns will provide you with a window into how to realize a comfortable and relaxing living space tailor-made to you. We'll discuss the elements of good design, as well as theory and practice.

With the arrows of St. Valentine flinging overhead this month, chances are good that you will take some special and thoughtful effort and do some romantic entertaining or, if you're lucky, be on the receiving end of such fond affection. In either case, the lay-out of the space, the lighting and other design details need your first attention, if you are to achieve the perfect ambience for a little arrow flinging and slinging of your own. Holidays and special occasions, such as Cupid's Day, provide an

Continued on page 16



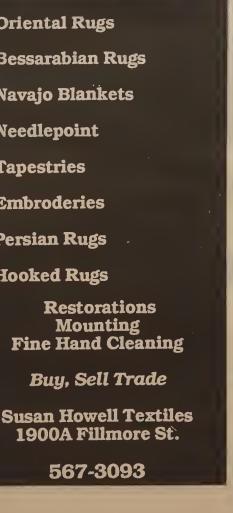


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excellent opportunity to test your skills at first-stage decorating, where you are faced head-to-head with bold decision-making. You will soon realize that planning is at the core of good design and that if you learn how to effectively and efficiently plan your design, the process will soon become increasingly more enjoyable.

So, sharpen your pencils, snatch a notepad and plan a beautiful Valentine's Day for somebody special—you, for instance! First, identify your overall objective. Then, look at it again, this time a bit more realistically, taking into consideration the resources, time and energy you are willing to expend. Use what you have available around the house, but remember that props such as balloons, flowers, candles, special accent pieces—even the menu, all offer you a chance to experiment with placement, theme and variation, as well as identifying your preferences, on a smaller scale and in advance of tackling the overall design of your home.

Good luck! Next issue we'll discuss the importance of integrating environment and your personal design.

J.P. Dangerfield is an interior designer who owns "Le Temps Perdu," a new antique and vintage consignment store opening late this month on Divisadero between Pine and Bush. She invites your inquiries on interior design.

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#### **PARIS**

From page 11

its own market. A word of warning, though—when in these establishments do not touch the perishable items. This appears very rude to the French, and will almost certainly earn you a tongue lashing; "After all," they will explain, "would I sell you a spoiled or unripened vegetable?" Something that few wine lovers will resist touching, however, are the excellent French wines in these stores, most selling for between \$2.00 and \$5.00!

Speaking of bargains, the Saint-Ouen flea market probably invented the term when years ago masterpieces were sometimes purchased for incredibly low prices from unknowing sellers. Today there still can be found everything from Betty Boop underwear to antique furniture at a price determined after the standard haggling session. Even if you are only browsing, the variety and activity will make it well worth a visit.

The night scene in Paris is a gastronomic and sensual delight. One dines in an intimate bistro or elegant restaurant between the fashionable hours of 8 til midnight. After filling up on the delicious French cuisine, the evening has but just begun. Your next stop may be a private club. At one such club, *Keur Samba*, we were inspected through a peep hole and admitted by a man who looked like part host-part bouncer. Here, the combination of steamymusic and colorful dancers swaying to the romantic samba beat creates an exotic and intimate atmosphere.

Looking for a good disco, we tried *La Palace*, another 'private' club. At this point, we decided that 'private' meant paying a \$15.00 entrance fee and \$12.00 a drink. A redeeming feature was that the drinks were Mumm's Champagne or call drinks, and that the packed house was all 'up' for the evening. *La Palace* is one of those places in Paris where the celebrities go to play and be 'seen'.

Bar-hopping is a must in Paris. As in the clubs, most of the bars get rolling at 11 p.m. and close at dawn. We especially liked the service and rambunctious crowd at Harry's. Vicki and I liked

their policy of keeping strangers away from our table (once seated, you were under the bartender's protection). Also, we met interesting people at *Joe Allen's* bar in Les Halles. This bar seemed an excellent place to have a serious conversation.

Of course, the deluxe hotels, such as the Bristol, Ritz and Meurice, all have wonderful bars. Like hotel bars anywhere, they tend to be on the formal side. In contrast, the neighborhood bars are casual and can be fun to explore.

Last but not least, in fact deserving of special mention, are the people-watching bars along the wide boulevard of the Champs Elysees. At night this boulevard is awash with light and crowded with people, as would be expected of the 'nerve center' of Paris. Here one finds Fouquet's, best known for its colebrity clientele and outrageously expensive drinks.

Walking at night in Paris is in itself a romantic experience. The soft street lamps reflecting off the cobbled stones or the sight of dawn's approach silhouetting the distinctive rooftopstells one that this city is immortal to all who are young or young at heart. Vicki and I will not forget this trip; in fact, now that we've seen Paris in the winter, I wonder if in the summer....

Susan Campos is Vice-President of Pacific Heights Travel.



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## Looking Good

by Elana Laub

### Brushing up

Why all the fuss about a brush? Because a good brush is the essential grooming necessity for everyone—man, woman and child. Dogs, cats and horses as well, but that discussion is beyond the scope of the Looking Good column.

How do you select a good hairbrush? The best and most expensive are made of natural bristles, usually boar from Europe or China. The 100% boar bristle brush is expensive because the long, firm bristles are the most scarce. A natural bristle brush polishes the hair and doesn't break it. The brush should be washed in warm soapy water frequently and air-dried. The bristles do soften in time, which is why it's best to start with a firmer bristle. When the brush gets too soft, it should be replaced.

The so-called "porcupine" brush is not made from porcupine at all. It is a mixed bristle brush, part boar and part thick, reinforced plastic bristle which is rounded at the end. The mixed bristle can get through even the thickest hair. A label on the handle identifies the 100% boar bristle brush, while the porcupine brush bears the legend "mixed"

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bristle" or "Thermolon," a trade name.

The Mason Pearson brush (the Mercedes Benz of brushes) is the original pneumatic rubber cushion hairbrush made in England. Mason Pearson makes brushes in both 100% boar and mixed bristle styles in small, medium and large brushes; the larger brushes come with their own brush cleaner which looks like a small floor-scrubbing brush. Although the Mason Pearson brush is expensive, it will last a minimum of ten years, long after many less expensive brushes have met their end; it is an excellent investment (that is, of course, if you don't lose it!).

The Denman brush is a nylon brush which is the professional's choice for blow-styling the hair. The bristles don't melt from the heat of the blow dryer, they don't tear the hair and they come in a variety of styles: half-round, round and vent brushes, as well as shampoo disks.

Circular brushes used for blow-styling come in a variety of bristle styles: wild boar, mixed, thermolon and the venting version with its wire and ball construction. These range from dime-sized circumference to halfdollar, silver dollar and the new jumbo--about four inches in circumference.

The hot styling brush (bristle on a metal core) works just like a curling iron. The blow dryer heats the metal core of the brush, which helps to set and hold the style.

So, what kind of brush is right for your kind of hair? If you have straight or slightly wavy hair, a firm natural boar bristle brush is best. If you have curly hair--either permed or natural-you'll probably do better with a vent type which won't brush out the curl, but will fluff up the "do" and is much faster than a pick.

Remember that the old adage "a hundred brush strokes make for glorious hair" is untrue. It's actually more harmful than good. Brushing can be hard on your hair, as can the elements--sun, wind, etc.--so it is very important to use the right brush.

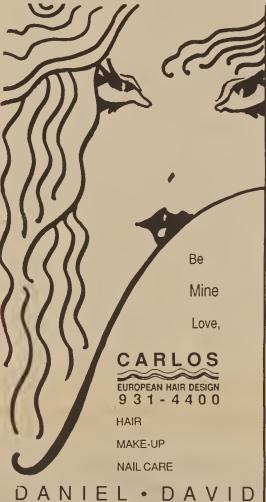
It is best to use a large, rake-type comb rather than a brush to detangle hair after shampooing. Start combing from the bottom and work up to the top. In fact, it is advisable not to use bristle brushes on wet hair at all

because hair stretches when wet and that can cause breakage. To prevent this, use a vent brush or Denman style brush only on hair that is wet or completely dry.

Now, that is just about everything you'll need to know about hairbrushes to maintain a healthy, beautiful head of hair.

All of the products recommended in "Looking Good" are available at all BEAUTY STORE locations (Fillmore Street and three others). If you have any questions, come by and our experts will point you in the right direction!

"Looking Good" appears monthly in The New Fillmore. Elana Laub is co-owner and vicepresident of BEAUTY STORE.



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### **Putting Nutrition First**

by Dr. Richard Kunin

### Food irradiation: is it really safe?

Food irradiation sounds too good to be true-and it is! Gamma radiation, a by-product of our nuclear industry, can rid food of bacteria, mold and encysted parasites. This greatly prolongs the storage life of the food and also reduces the risk of illnesses such as salmonella (from chicken), botulism (from anaerobic bacteria on food), liver cancer (from mold toxins) and trichinosis (from the common pork parasite that encysts in human muscles).

The economic and health benefits could be substantial. In addition, food irradiation ends the need for toxic fumigants to remove insects from food and it provides a use for radioactive wastes, which are otherwise a major pollution disposal problem.

Unfortunately, gamma rays do alter the quality of food by destroying many vitamins, altering amino acids and releasing electronic oxidant substances, so-called free radicals, and by forming abnormal chemical byproducts, some of which are carcinogenic. Since the process is rather new, the true extent of the dangers is not known. Currently, only a small amount of our food is irradiated. However, this is certain to increase, and with it the extra hazard of radiation accident as radioactive materials are hauled to hundreds of local food irradiation centers throughout the country.

Are we going to be "guinea pigs" for this next large public experiment? Or, have safety

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studies been conducted? How do you feel about the fact that out of 400-plus studies, only about 35 say that food irradiation is safe and of these only 5 were considered by the government experts to be valid? More research is still needed.

Is it important to know if your food has been irradiated? Luckily for the industry, odors are erased by irradiation. For example, irradiated tea or herbs and spices have no smell. This "smell test" is the only tip-off you will have to the fact of irradiation of your food, for the FDA has not required the food processors to reveal the fact of irradiation to the consumer. There is no warning label.

This means that fruits, vegetables, wheat, wheat flour, white potatoes and a large number of herbs and spices are already subject to irradiation WITHOUT anything on the label or package to let you know. Application to approve irradiation of meat and poultry is in process right now. In my opinion there is a real need for more scientific research to validate the safety of irradiation, especially since there is no labeling requirement.

If you want more information about this important subject, the National Coalition to Stop Food Irradiation is headquartered in San Francisco at P.O. Box 59-04888, Zip 94159. They have helped Congressman Douglas Bosco to frame legislation that would require labeling of irradiated foods as well as additional studies of the health effects.

This legislation will be up for vote within the next three months. If you have an opinion, now is the time to express it to your representatives. A simple statement, for or against food irradiation or the proposed Food Irradiation Safety and Liability Requirement Act, will help to protect your health and your freedom of choice.

Dr. Kunin is a doctor of nutritional medicine and the author of two best selling books on Nutrition: Mega-Nutrition, and Mega-Nutrition for Women. His private practice is here in the neighborhood.

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#### LINGERIE

From page 14

evening. And their silk chiffon dresses are unbelievable. I saw a two-piece black dress and coverup in a sweeping Art-Deco style, inset with dyed and gilded lace around the waist. I heard about their chiffon tap pants, camisoles and ballerina dresses which will be featured in the March issue of VOUGUE. I recommend you visit TOUJOUR's TRUNK SHOW featuring the Underwriters designers on Saturday, February 14, from 2 to 5p.m. to see for yourself.

Other Toujour's Valentine Treats:San Francisco designerChristine Proenza, creates lace and silk lingerie that is romantically pretty-hand rolled flowerettes of vibrant satin are turned into hair ornaments by a Santa Cruz artisan-silly silk eyeshades are the perfect present for the partner who always yells "turn off that light!" Specially boxed for Valentine's Day: men's silk boxers in black, grey flannel or polka dot at \$21 each; women's silk G-string and orchid sachet in a corsage box at 13.98.

THE PRODUCER presently has a few seethrough voile and satin-banded boxer shorts in their possession. Their Treesha silk drawstring pants and pajama tops come in teal or silver, men's robes in silk or cotton madras look ahead towards Spring, and their brightpatterned shorts double as swimsuits. Socks seem too practical a present? Not when they're from Italy or Japan-Gallo and Cantarelli make Italian knits, Davco is Japanese—and their brightly colored socks come in cable knit, flat knit with contrasting tops, paisleys imprinted on red, plus the finest, lightest pastel knit with narrow white stripes. Hand-painted bow ties, plus cummerbund and tie sets, are available in out-of-the-ordinary fabrications.

February can be fun-just keep the sleepshades on the groundhog, please; I'm tired of wind-ter.

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# **Great Old Houses #10**



2030 Scott Street escaped the outdated "modernization" of its former twin next door.

Unexpected on an architecturally uninteresting block, 2030 Scott Street shines in the transition between Italianate and Stick styles. It's Italianate for the facade's verticality, Corinthian columns, roofline cornice and classical moldings. It's Stick for the rectangular plan bay window and the outside representation of structure-within-look, especially above the double windows.

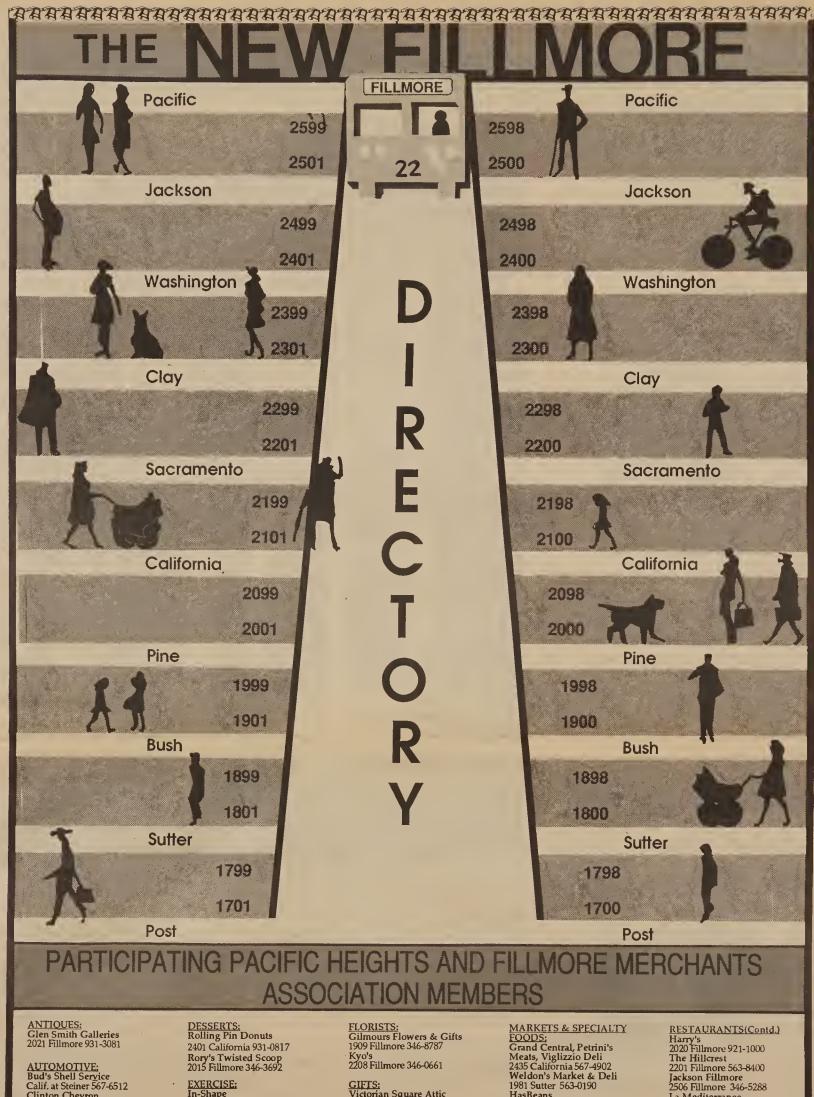
The house was built in 1881, about the time one would guess from its looks. According to a local magazine, no architect was involved. Just a nearly anonymous carpenter named F. Sweet and an owner, Thomas Holt. Probably the plan came from standard house plans then in use, and the facade design from the owner. Construction costs were estimated at \$5,500. That's for TWO houses. Holt had bought the land all the way to Sacramento Street for \$4,700. The other house he built with Sweet on this contract was 2032 Scott, next door. The two houses were twins that still share one party wall between them, but oh, has 2032 changed! Twins are hard to imagine now, and if someone tries to restore 2032, the asbestos siding will make trouble. The other has not escaped entirely. The garage door is best overlooked. I don't quarrel with automobile provision in a horse-and-carriage house, but a garage door should complement the house's design lines, which in this case are vertical. Will someone please design an automation-equipped garage door that looks like an old carriage-house door with vertical folding panels?

The original owner, Thomas Holt, was no stranger to the construction business. A civil engineer born in Maine about 1835, he was Superintendent of Construction for all U. S. buildings in California from 1879-1881. He spent \$175,000 finishing the interior of the great brick 4-story U.S. Appraisers Building at Sansome and Washington, where the Customhouse is now. He supervised construction of a 2-story brick building for the Army on New Montgomery, renovation of the old Appraisers Building for the Post Office, and goodness knows what in the rest of the state. One of his San Francisco structures remains: the road that curves down from Presidio Avenue to the Presidio.

In 1881 Holt resigned from government employ to superintend construction of the narrow gauge Bodie Railroad to carry wood and supplies from Mono Lake to Bodie's gold mines. It was a mountain engineering feat, with a pair of switch-backs bracketing a backwards run.

By 1889 he'd retired to San Francisco, living at 2030 Scott, and he died within a year. By 1901 ownership of the two-party-wall houses had been split, and a scene painter at the old Tivoli Opera House bought this one.

—Anne Bloomfield



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